3. 28 Small Industries Service Institutes (SISIs) and 30 Branch SISIs set up in State capitals and other industrial cities all over the country provide techno-economic managerial support services to the SSI units.

4. Office of Development Commissioner (SSI) has launched a scheme on technology upgradation and management Programme called UPTECH in 1998.

5. SIDBI operates technology development and modernisation fund (TDMF) to encourage existing industrial units in the small scale sector to modernise their production facilities and adopt improved and updated technology so as to strengthen their export capabilities.

6. The Office of DCSSI gives assistance to SSI units on acquiring ISO 9000 certification.

Foreign investment and disinvestment policy in PSUs

†1877. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's policy regarding foreign investment in private sector undertakings;

(b) the total revenue earned by Government, till date, through such investment;

(c) the manner in which Government propose to utilise this revenue;

(d) whether a part of the said revenue would be earmarked for creating an investment fund so as to use it for strengthing other enterprises of private sector; and

(e) if so, what is the present position regarding such fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Government, on review of the policy on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), has decided to place all items / activities under the automatic route for FDI / NRI and Overseas Corporate Body (OCB) investment except the following:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(i) All proposals that require an industrial Licence which includes (i) the item requiring an industrial licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951; (ii) foreign investment being more than 24% in the equity capital of units manufacturing items reserved for small scale industries; and (iii) all items which require an industrial licence in terms of the locational policy notified by Government under the New Industrial policy of 1991.

(ii) All proposals in which the foreign collaborator has a previous venture / tieup in India.

(iii) All proposals relating to acquisition of shares in an exising Indian company in favour of a foreign / NRI / OCB investor.

(iv) All proposals falling outside notified sectoral policy / caps or under sectors in which FDI is not permitted and / or whenever any investor chooses to make an application to the FIPB and not to avail of the automatic route.

All proposals for investment in public sector units as also for EOU / EPZ/ EHTP / STP units would qualify for automatic route subject to the above parameters.

(b) Foreign direct investment is not the revenue earned by the government.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Disinvestment of BHEL

1878. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Government's may sell 51 percent in BHEL" published in the Business Standard, dated 19th February, 2000 (New Delhi); and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.